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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director, ONE ^{25X1A}
Attention: [REDACTED]
FROM : Acting Chief, Production Division, SI
SUBJECT: Critique of ONE Summary of [REDACTED] University Research Staff Report on "Estimates of Capabilities of the United States Combat Forces In Being, 1 September 1951."

DATE: 19 October 1951

PROBLEM 25X1A

To check the ONE Summary against the [REDACTED] Report (Sections V, Weapons; VI, Electronics; VII, Atomic Warfare; VIII, Biological Warfare; IX, Chemical Warfare), and to comment on:

- I. Matters of importance, if any, which have been omitted from the Summary
- II. Recommendations, if any, for other changes in the Summary.

SUMMARY

In general, the Summary reflects the tone of the Report in so far as those Sections are concerned which were covered by this review, viz., Sections V through IX, inclusive. A few important omissions were noted and two misinterpretations of facts. (See DISCUSSION.) This is probably due to the fact that the Summary was prepared by non-specialists in the several fields.

Further, it should be noted that the [REDACTED] Staff overlooked several important open sources of information which would be available to a well-trained foreign agent.

DISCUSSION

Section V. WEAPONS

I. Matters of Importance Omitted

A. Pages 42 and 43 - mention should be made of the greatly accelerated U. S. efforts to produce guided missiles between fiscal years 1950 and 1952 and that certain U. S. guided missiles are now in production.

B. Pages 41 and 42 - mention should be made of the increased destructive power of bombs, that improved fins and

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rocket boosters are under development to improve the accuracy of high-speed bombing, and that high velocity guns are being developed to solve some of the problems associated with high airplane speeds.

C. Page 41 - for the words, "and the VT proximity fuse," substitute the words, "and two types of proximity fuzes (VT and photoelectric)."

D. Page 43 - add after "the False Ogive fuse" the words, "a device to permit use of shaped-charge ammunition in high velocity guns," and delete the words, "an improvement on the shaped charge."

II. Other Changes Recommended

A. The "appended chart listing eighteen types of guided missiles," was not appended. Consequently, no comment can be made as to the value of the chart and whether more special mention should be made of it. It is possible that this chart might have greater value than that indicated in the Summary. 25X1A

B. It is understood that the [REDACTED] Report was initiated to determine the extent of Armed Forces intelligence obtainable from purely overt sources. In this connection, it is hoped that great caution will be used in evaluating the resultant information. It is possible that an erroneous conclusion might be drawn from the report, leading to false confidence in current national security. For instance, with regard to guided missiles, it is obvious that the person responsible for this section of the report has had no direct background in this field. In addition, the sweeping generalities and categorical statements, without restricting or cautionary phrases, betray a lack of intelligence training. Finally, the paucity of sources of information available (in most cases no more than one copy of a periodical) is much too great to be considered adequate source material. It would be most unwise to assume that a foreign power would handicap itself in such a manner in a similar exploitation effort. It must be considered probable that any such foreign effort would have been underway for a considerable period of time which would permit a much more rapid and accurate evaluation of raw information by virtue of existing files.

Section VI. ELECTRONICS

I. Material of Importance Omitted

A. Page 44 - replace the third sentence with:

"The U. S. has numerous electronic aids to navigation. These include equipment for night and all weather aircraft landing, pilotless flying, calculation of position and altitude under all weather conditions, and ship position location and control."

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B. Page 44 - fifth sentence: change "artillery range and other types of computation," to "artillery range and other types of computing;"

C. Page 44 - fifth sentence, add after "computing;" - "weather detection and data transmission."

II. Other Changes Recommended

Eliminate second sentence of the second paragraph as the report does not indicate importance of disclosure of information concerning the U. S. radar warning net.

Section VII. ATOMIC WARFARE

I. Matters of Importance Omitted

A. On Page 47, delete the sentence which reads, "The lowest estimate is 600; the highest 2850; the corrected average figure, 1500." and insert in its place:

"The lowest estimate is 600; the highest 4500 bombs. The corrected average figures for strategic bombs (i.e. equivalent in fissionable material content to the estimated Hiroshima weapon) is given as 1500. The highest estimate of 4500 bombs is attained by assuming, on the basis of published items, that bombs can be made for tactical purposes by using one-third of the fissionable material used in the strategic type."

B. On Page 48 - delete the paragraph under sub-heading, "C. Sources," and insert in its place:

"The sources are two official publications, one privately sponsored book, five magazines, the New York Times, and the London Times. There is no evaluation of these sources, but it is evident that the study in question was more a matter of inference than of acquiring evaluated information from sources. No attempt is made to explain the basis of the choice of source materials or the scope of investigation of possible sources."

II. Recommendations, if any, for other changes in the Summary.

A. Page 46 - delete the first sentence and insert in its place:

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"By examining various published items on the U. S. atomic energy program, and making a series of assumptions, the justifications for which are explained, the report reaches conclusions concerning the approximate number of atomic bombs available to the U. S. as of July 1, 1951."

Section VIII. BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

I. Matters of importance which have been omitted from the Summary.

A. Paragraph 2 ~~25X1A~~ Summary misconstrues the Report's comments on the Rosebury-Kabat-Boldt report of 1942 (published in 1947). The author of the ~~Report~~ Report expresses surprise that Rosebury's Experimental Airborne Infection (1947) was cleared for publication -- not that the Rosebury-Kabat-Boldt report was cleared.

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B. In addition to the subjects listed in Paragraph 2 of the Summary, the ~~Report~~ report lists:

1. Research centers at which studies on BW are under way.
2. Dissemination techniques.
3. Scientific journals to be continually examined for maintaining a check on the unclassified information available on BW.

II. Other Changes Recommended

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A. It does not seem that the author of the ~~Report~~ report presents an outline of the main problems of BW (as stated in the Summary). Rather, he mentions them as they appear in connection with specific questions.

B. The most significant statement of the Summary, and one which should perhaps receive greater emphasis, is that "an adequate summary, if written, would probably have to be undertaken by a biologist."

Section IX. CHEMICAL WARFARE

I. Matters of importance which have been omitted from the Summary.

A. Part B.

On Page 601 of the report, information is quoted from the "Armed Forces Chemical Journal" giving reasons CW is

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urged in Korea. This information appears to be of sufficient importance to be referred to in the Summary.

B. Part D.

Suggested title for this part would be "Military Explosives and Pyrotechnics." The review should include the fact that the components for some tracers are given in the report. Also, that arms production in mid-1951 is up 14% from 1950 level and is nearing the point where labor shortage will become a serious problem.

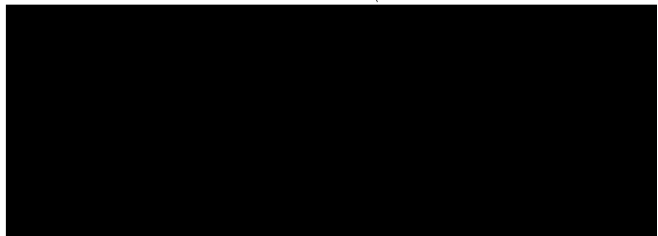
II. Other Changes Recommended

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The ONE Summary of the CW section of the [REDACTED] Report concisely reviews the subject material collected. However, rewriting of paragraph "F" along the following lines is suggested:

"The report lists as being in short supply the metals: ... etc. There are notes on the military uses of most of these, the reason for the shortage, and the means being taken to relieve the shortage. Similarly listed as scarce chemicals are: ... etc."

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